

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 35-49 have been added.

Claims 1-34 have been cancelled.

Claims 35-49 are pending in the application.

New claims 35-49 do not add new matter.

II. Telephone Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Akers for all of the courtesies extended in the telephone interview held on August 6, 2003, with Louis DelJuidice. Applicants thank the Examiner for the discussion regarding the claims and the prior art.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 6,134,536 to Shepherd in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,408,282 to Buist. Claims 29-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable for obviousness over Shepherd in view of Buist and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,381,586 to Glasserman et al.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-34 and have rendered the present rejections moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the present rejections.

